14th February 1959]

Discovery of cannon balls at Sarabendrarajapatnam

* 340 *Q.*—Sri K. SATTANATHA KARAYALAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that cannon balls of various sizes were discovered at Sarabendrarajapatnam in Pattukkottai taluk, Tanjore district;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that a large number of these cannon balls are being sold for steel in the market; and

(*c*) if so, what steps are taken to preserve these historical relics?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM: (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) & (*c*) It is likely that the finder of the cannon balls has disposed of some of them. But it is estimated that the number of the balls so disposed of will not exceed 100. The Police Department is still investigating. The remainder, numbering about 2,710 are now under the custody of the local village officers, pending their removal to the Taluk office, Pattukkottai.

Sri S. LAZAR: How is the existence of these cannon balls accounted for?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM: An investigation will have to be made and it is not possible to say how they came to be buried there.

Drinking-water well

* 341 *Q.*—Sri K. R. VISWANATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the District Collector, Tiruchirappalli, has received any petition, dated 11th November 1958, from the President, Panchayat, Ponparappi, Udaivarpalayam taluk, Tiruchirappalli district, regarding the construction of a drinking-water well with over-head tanks at Ponparappi; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU: (*a*) The Revenue Divisional Officer, Ariyalur, received the petition.

(*b*) The work is in progress.

Chit funds

* 342 *Q.*—Sri K. SATTANATHA KARAYALAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to bring in legislation to control and regulate chit funds;

(*b*) if so, what its salient features are?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN: (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) The draft of a Bill has been referred to the Government of India for their concurrence. It is, therefore, not possible to specify with finality the salient features of the Bill at this stage.

[14th February 1959

SRI K. SATTANATHA KARAYALAR : இந்த சிட்டை கட்டுப் படுத்தும் முறையில் முதலில் சிட் நடத்துபவர்கள் ஓரளவு செக்யூரிட்டி பணம் வைக்க தகுதியுள்ளவர்களாகவாவது இருக்க வேண்டுமென்று சட்டத்தில் உட்படுத்தப் படுமா ?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : அந்த ஆலோசனை கவனிக்கப்படும்.

SRI A. A. RASHEED : Is it a fact that there are a large number of bogus chit funds in our State and if so, how many?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I do not know the number of bogus chit funds but really it is only to control them that we are bringing forward this legislation.

Institute of Veterinary Preventive Medicine Workers' Union, Ranipet

* 343 *Q.*—SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Institute of Veterinary Preventive Medicine Workers' Union (Registered No. 2359), Ranipet, has been recognized by the Government; and

(*b*) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) The Institute of Veterinary Preventive Medicine Workers' Union has not been recognized by Government.

(*b*) The Institute of Veterinary Preventive Medicine is a technical department and the grievances of the mazdoors in the Institute of Veterinary Preventive Medicine (who are Government servants paid from contingencies) are being looked into as and when representations are received. The Government have therefore considered that there is no need for the recognition of any Workers' Union for such a purpose.

SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Even if the Union has not been recognized, will the Government please consider the representations which are made by the Union?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : As I have already stated, the Government have been looking into the various representations as and when they are received.

Leprosy

* 344 *Q.*—SRI S. LAZAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware of the increase of leprosy cases in Keezharasoor and Amarasoor villages in Pullambadi firka in Lalgudi taluk, Tiruchirappalli district;

(*b*) the reasons for the increase; and

(*c*) the steps taken to arrest the spread or increase of leprosy cases?